

MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***The Grand Gypsy*, the award winning travelogue/memoir now an audiobook! Released through all major online retailers November 26, 2020.**



Synopsis

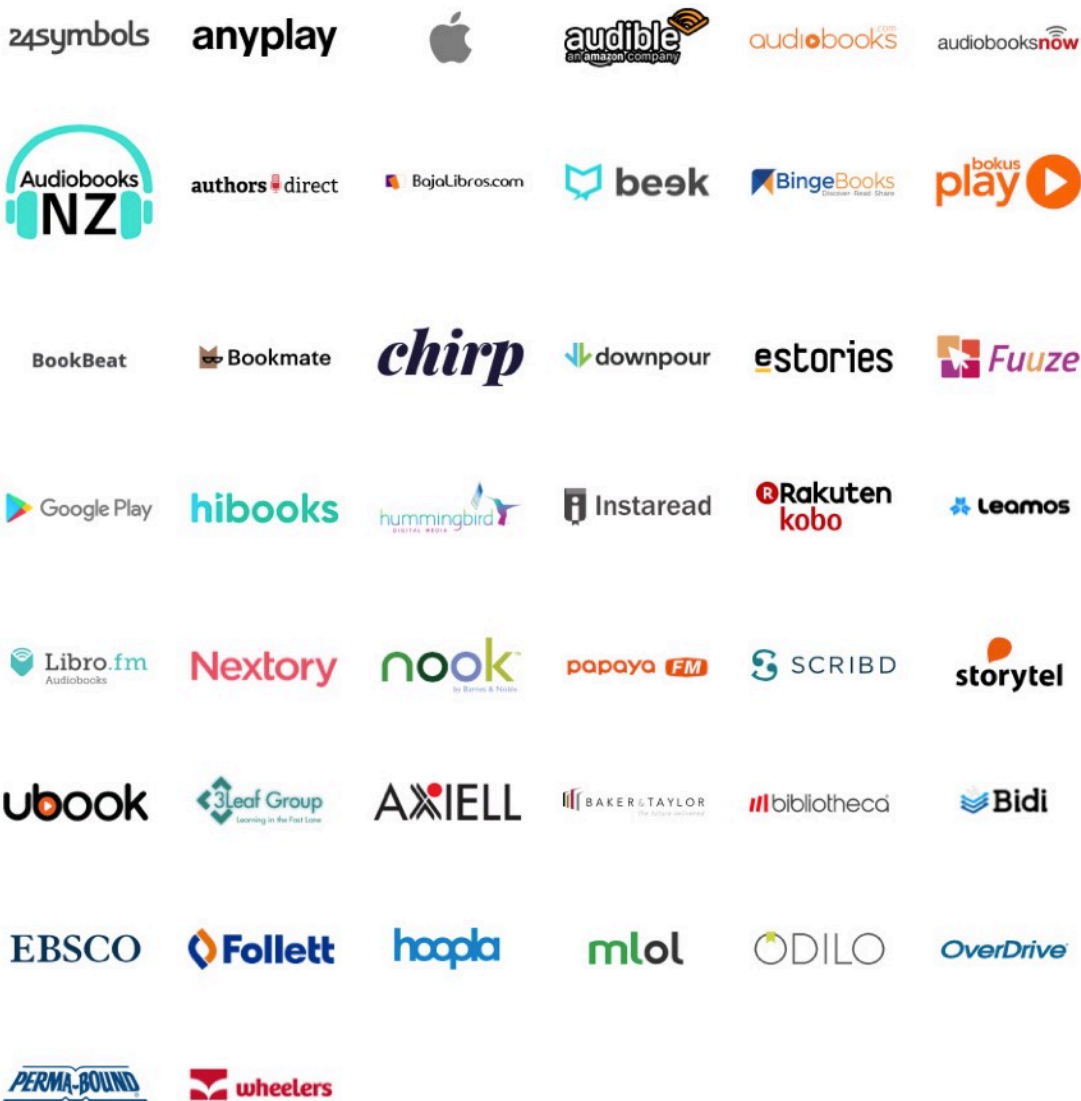
What do Adolf Hitler, Mahatma Gandhi, and Ed Sullivan have in common? Ottavio Canestrelli crossed paths with each. ***The Grand Gypsy*** recounts Ottavio Canestrelli's whirlwind life touring with his family across five continents and countless nations, which intersected with some of the 20th Century's most historic times and significant events. He fought for Italy in World War I and later performed with the Krone Circus in Germany during the 1920s on the eve of Adolf Hitler's rise to power. Among his adventures, he witnessed the excavation of the Sphinx in Egypt, survived a riot in Uruguay, and was at a 1931 rally for Mahatma Gandhi in India. Twice he appeared on the 1960s pinnacle showcase for talent, the Ed Sullivan Show in New York City.

The Grand Gypsy by Ottavio Canestrelli with Ottavio Gesmundo, is an engaging travelogue and memoir detailing the extraordinary adventures of circus star Ottavio Canestrelli (1896 – 1977), a decorated World War I veteran, impresario and showman who emigrated to America to become a center ring star of the famed Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Co-author Ottavio Gesmundo, a sixth-generation performer himself, narrates the audiobook. Gesmundo's performance credits include "Saturday Night Fever" on Broadway, "Spider-Man Live!" at Radio City Music Hall, and "The Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien." Gesmundo is also an accomplished choreographer and crossbow stunt performer who, like his grandfather, has entertained audiences all over the world.

Audiobook Details

ISBN: 9781664980501
Source Copyright: 2016 Ottavio Gesmundo
Audio Copyright: 2020 Ottavio Gesmundo
Release date: November 26, 2020
Length: 5 hours, 2 minutes
Language: English
List Price: \$12.00 (Audiobook), \$14.99 (paperback), \$7.99 (eBook)

Available through all major outlets:



Crossbow performance/demonstration, and interviews with Ottavio Gesmundo are available. Watch performance and interview on Fox 5 Good Day New York <https://vimeo.com/crossbowstunts/GoodDayNewYork> and The Tonight Show <https://vimeo.com/crossbowstunts/TheTonightShow>.

For additional information, please visit www.thegrandgypsy.com, or www.crossbowstunts.com.

Connect with Ottavio Gesmundo on social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/ottavio.gesmundo>

<https://www.instagram.com/crossbowstunts/>

<https://twitter.com/CrossbowStunts>

Awards/Reviews:

"With its pictures and rich anecdotes, this is a treasure of a book." - Judge, 25th Annual Writer's Digest Self-Published Book Awards. **(Honorable Mention)**

"5 Stars - The Grand Gypsy is an outstanding literary experience from beginning to end." - Authors Talk About It **(Second Place Winner)**

"The story of Ottavio Canestrelli is unique and this book, rich with history and filled with humor, is fresh and memorable." - "readers will definitely be interested in his remarkable story." - The Booklife Prize by Publisher's Weekly

"5 Stars - The narratives are masterfully and harmoniously blended to create a fascinating chronicle of circus history. While Canestrelli relives the exciting heyday of the Big Top, Gesmundo adds meticulous details to anchor his grandfather's account securely within its era. It is this contribution that elevates this book from memoir to valuable historical record. It reaches beyond circus life to add insightful snapshots into the first half of the 20th century" - Readers Favorite

"The story of his travels, his acts and those of his talented family will enthrall any reader, and this is a most well-written and structured book" - Circus Report

"Fascinating and highly enjoyable reading, not only for anyone interested in circus history, but also for any curious or adventurous mind." – Circopedia.org

"At 238 pages, with over 170 historical photographs, the book is a delight to read. I highly recommend it" - White Tops

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